



10/18  
B. White  
12-11-91

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

GEORGE J. MURAKAWA, ET AL.

Filed: September 1, 1989

Serial No. 07/402,450

FOR: METHOD FOR AMPLIFICATION  
AND DETECTION OF  
RNA SEQUENCES

Group Art Unit 187

Examiner: M. Escallon

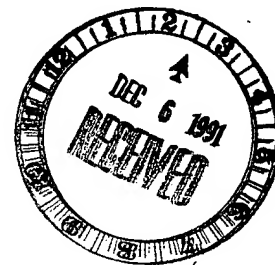
RESPONSE TO OFFICE  
ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 4, 1991

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite claim 18 as follows:



18. (Amended) A process for [minimizing] discerning false negative data or false positive data in the identification of a target viral RNA sequence in a peripheral blood cell sample which comprises:

- (i) selecting said target viral RNA sequence;
- (ii) simultaneously subjecting
  - (a) said sample and
  - (b) at least one synthetic RNA reference sequence which does not include said target sequence or which includes substantially more nucleotides than said target sequence or which includes at least about 20 nucleotides less than said target sequence

to polymerase chain reaction amplification under conditions appropriate to simultaneously amplify said